Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a press felt, the method comprising

forming a base fabric comprising at least one layer, ~~whose~~ wherein the at least one layer comprises at least a first planar component, which is formed from a plurality of longitudinal yarns that travel in the machine direction and from transverse yarns that travel in the cross machine direction, and the first component is provided with a first transverse joining edge area and a second transverse joining edge area, arranging the first transverse joining edge area and the second transverse joining edge area of the first component to overlap each other and forming a base fabric with the shape of a closed loop,

attaching at least one batt ~~fibre~~ fiber layer to the base fabric with the shape of a closed loop, and

attaching the joining edge areas undetachably to each other before the attachment of the batt ~~fibre~~ fiber layer,

and the method further comprising

forming at least one thinned joining edge area, where the density of transverse yarns is smaller than in the other portions of the first component,

arranging permeability in the overlapping joining edge areas to substantially correspond to that in the rest of the base fabric, and

pressing the joining edge areas of the first component against each other during the attachment by a predetermined force so that the thickness of the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the thickness of the rest of the first component.

17. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 16, comprising removing transverse yarns from at least one joining edge area of the first component from a ~~predetermined~~ portion having a length of between 5 and 20 mm.

18. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 16, comprising providing, when the first component is formed, at least one joining edge area of the component with a smaller density of transverse yarns than the rest of the first component.

19. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 16, comprising forming a thinned first joining edge area and a second joining edge area in the first component.

20. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 16, comprising attaching the overlapping joining edge areas to each other by welding.

21. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 16, comprising providing at least the portion of the overlapping joining edge areas with an attachment area, where the joining edge areas are attached to each other undetachably, and making the boundary surface between the attachment area and the rest of the first component non-linear.

22. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 16, comprising providing at least the portion of the overlapping joining edge areas with an attachment area, where the joining edge areas are attached to each other undetachably, and providing the attachment area with several attachment points, which form a pattern that imitates the pattern of the base fabric surface.

23. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a press felt, the method comprising

forming a base fabric comprising at least one layer, wherein the at least one layer comprises at least a first planar component, which is formed from a plurality of longitudinal yarns that

travel in the machine direction and from transverse yarns that travel in the cross machine direction, and the first component is provided with a first transverse joining edge area and a second transverse joining edge area, arranging the first transverse joining edge area and the second transverse joining edge area of the first component to overlap each other and forming a base fabric with the shape of a closed loop,

attaching at least one batt fiber layer to the base fabric with the shape of a closed loop, and attaching the joining edge areas undetachably to each other before the attachment of the batt fiber layer,

and the method further comprising

forming at least one thinned joining edge area, where the density of transverse yarns is smaller than in the other portions of the first component,

arranging permeability in the overlapping joining edge areas to substantially correspond to that in the rest of the base fabric,

pressing the joining edge areas of the first component against each other during the attachment by a predetermined force so that the thickness of the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the thickness of the rest of the first component, and

~~according to claim 16, comprising~~

~~forming at least a first planar component,~~

forming at least a second component with the shape of a closed loop,

arranging the first component on top of the second component, and

connecting the joining edge areas of the first component with an overlapping joint.

24. (Currently Amended) A press felt for a paper machine press section, the press felt comprising:

a base fabric comprising at least one layer, which comprises a plurality of longitudinal yarns that travel in the machine direction and a plurality of transverse yarns that travel in the cross

machine direction and ~~whose~~ wherein the at least one layer comprises at least a first planar component, which includes a first transverse joining edge area and a second transverse joining edge area and where the joining edge areas have been connected to each other; and

at least one batt ~~fibre~~ fiber layer,

and wherein

the first joining edge area and the second joining edge area of the first component have been arranged to overlap each other,

the joining edge areas have been attached to each other undetachably before the attachment of the batt ~~fibre~~ fiber layer,

the density of transverse yarns is smaller at least in one joining edge area of the first component than in the rest of the first component,

the joining edge areas of the first component have been pressed against each other,

the thickness of the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the thickness of the rest of the first component, and

the permeability in the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the permeability of the rest of the base fabric.

25. (Currently Amended) A press felt according to claim 24, wherein

transverse yarns have been removed from at least one joining edge area of the first component from a ~~predetermined~~ portion having a length of between 5 and 20 mm.

26. (Previously Presented) A press felt according to claim 25, wherein at least one joining edge area of the first component is provided with a smaller density of transverse yarns than the rest of the first component during the manufacture.

27. (Previously Presented) A press felt according to claim 25, wherein the joining edge areas of the first component have been attached to each other by welding.

28. (Previously Presented) A press felt according to claim 25, wherein the width of the overlapping area of the joining edge areas of the first component is 5 to 20 mm in the machine direction.

29. (Previously Presented) A base fabric for a press felt, comprising:

a plurality of longitudinal yarns that travel in the machine direction;

a plurality of transverse yarns that travel in the cross machine direction;

at least a first planar component in at least one layer of the base fabric, and the first component comprises at least a first transverse joining edge area and a second transverse joining edge area, and where the joining edge areas have been connected to each other, and where

the first joining edge area and the second joining edge area of the first component have been arranged to overlap each other;

the joining edge areas have been attached to each other undetachably,

and wherein

at least one joining edge area of the first component has a smaller density of transverse yarns than the rest of the first component,

the joining edge areas of the first component have been pressed against each other,

the thickness of the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the thickness of the rest of the first component, and

the permeability in the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the permeability of the rest of the base fabric.

30. (Previously Presented) A base fabric according to claim 29, wherein the joining edge areas of the first component are attached to each other by welding.

31. (New) A method according to claim 16, wherein the first planar component of the base fabric is manufactured by weaving and its width substantially corresponds to the width of the press felt.

32. (New) A press felt for a paper machine press section, the press felt comprising:
a base fabric, which comprises a plurality of longitudinal yarns that travel in the machine direction and a plurality of transverse yarns that travel in the cross machine direction and whose at least one layer comprises at least a first planar component, which includes a first transverse joining edge area and a second transverse joining edge area and where the joining edge areas have been connected to each other; and
at least one batt fiber layer,
and wherein
the first joining edge area and the second joining edge area of the first component have been arranged to overlap each other,
the joining edge areas have been attached to each other undetachably before the attachment of the batt fiber layer,
the density of transverse yarns is smaller at least in one joining edge area of the first component than in the rest of the first component,
the joining edge areas of the first component have been pressed against each other,
the thickness of the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the thickness of the rest of the first component,

the permeability in the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the permeability of the rest of the base fabric, and

wherein the base fabric further comprises a second component having a shape of a closed loop, and wherein the first component is located on top of the second component.

33. (New) A base fabric for a press felt, comprising:

a plurality of longitudinal yarns that travel in the machine direction;

a plurality of transverse yarns that travel in the cross machine direction;

at least a first planar component in at least one layer of the base fabric, and the first component comprises at least a first transverse joining edge area and a second transverse joining edge area, and where the joining edge areas have been connected to each other, and where

the first joining edge area and the second joining edge area of the first component have been arranged to overlap each other;

the joining edge areas have been attached to each other undetachably,

and wherein

at least one joining edge area of the first component has a smaller density of transverse yarns than the rest of the first component,

the joining edge areas of the first component have been pressed against each other,

the thickness of the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the thickness of the rest of the first component,

the permeability in the overlapping joining edge areas substantially corresponds to the permeability of the rest of the base fabric, and

wherein the base fabric further comprises a second component having a shape of a closed loop, and wherein the first component is located on top of the second component.